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10/617,601	07/11/2003	Aki Niemi	915-013.003	2913

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EXAMINER

WANG, LIANGCHE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/617,601

Applicant(s)

NIEMI, AKI

Examiner

Liang-che Alex Wang

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/19/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-17 are presented for examination.

Paper Submitted

2. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed of record in the file:
 - a. **Information Disclosure Statement** as received on 11/19/2004 is considered.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 2-6, 8-13 are objected to because of the following informalities:
4. Claims 2-6 recites the limitation "A communication system according to claim 1...", where claims 2-6 depends on claim 1 and the communication system of claims 2-6 refer to the communication system of claim 1. Therefore the term "A communication system of claim 1..." of claims 2-6, should be corrected to "The communication system of claim 1 ...".
5. Claims 8-13 recites the limitation "A method according to claim 1...", where claims 8-13 depends on claim 7 and the method of claims 2-6 refer to the method of claim 7. Therefore the term "A method of claim 7..." of claim 8-13, should be corrected to "The method of claim 7...".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

6. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title

7. Claims 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims are directed to software per se, which does not fall into the categories of “process”, “machine”, “manufacture” and “composition of matter”. Referring to claims 15, and 17, claims 15 and 17 recite computer program products, comprising computer executable code means. The computer program products direct the claims to software per se.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9. Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 11-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ogle et al., US Patent Number 6,430,604, hereinafter Ogle.
10. Referring to claim 1, Ogle teaches a communication system (figure 2) comprising a communication terminal (sender 10) for transmitting a request for establishing communication (Col 10 lines 3-5, 51-52, 64-65, sender initiates a request and a message

to a recipient), and a server (EMS 46) for handling the request (Col 10 lines 3-5, 54-56, 65-67, message and request are received at EMS to determine the recipients' availability), said server being adapted to respond to a communication establishment failure situation by returning a failure response including rerouting details (Col 10 line 65 – Col 11 line 3, Col 11 lines 14-17, if recipient's availability is negative, the system checks the registered alternative mechanisms and returns a list of available choice to the sender (failure response); alternative mechanisms corresponds to "rerouting details") wherein the communication terminal (sender) is adapted to receive such a failure response including rerouting details (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, the result from alternative mechanism checking is returned to the sender with a list of available alternatives), and to forward data according to the received rerouting details (Col 14 lines 25-29, message is delivered on the selected mechanism).

11. Referring to claim 3, Ogle teaches the communication system according to claim 1, wherein the failure response has rerouting details including a phone number of a requested receiver (figure 3, phone numbers 315, 325) and the communication terminal (sender) has means for receiving the failure response (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, the result from alternative mechanism checking is returned to the sender with a list of available alternatives) including the phone number of the requested receiver and for forwarding data to the received phone number through short message service centre by a short message service or a multimedia messaging service (Col 7 lines 23-34, phone number is one of the alternative delivery mechanism to deliver the message, figure 2, message are sent via ISDN, PSTN).

12. Referring to claim 4, Ogle teaches the communication system according to claim 1, wherein the failure response has rerouting details including an electronic mail address (figure 3, email 313) and the communication terminal has means for receiving the failure response (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, the result from alternative mechanism checking is returned to the sender with a list of available alternatives) including the electronic mail address, and for forwarding data according to the electronic mail address (Col 7 lines 23-34, email is one of the alternative delivery mechanism).
13. Referring to claim 5, Ogle teaches the communication system according to claim 1, wherein the communication terminal further comprises means for confirming the forwarding of data according to the received rerouting details (Col 14 lines 25-29, the selected mechanism for delivery is the confirmed forwarding of data according to the received rerouting details).
14. Referring to claim 6, Ogle teaches the communication system according to claim 1, wherein the server comprises means for fetching rerouting details including an alternative contact information of the requested recipient from a data storage storing alternative contact information of users (Col 7 lines 57-67, Col 9 lines 22-42, alternative mechanisms includes alternative contact information are stored in data storages for search), means for adding the rerouting details to the failure response, and as a response to inability to establish the requested communication (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, alternative mechanisms are created in Block 580, figure 5C), means for returning to the sender of the request the failure response including rerouting details (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52 available alternatives are returned to the sender).

15. Referring to claim 7, Ogle teaches a method for establishing a communication (see title), comprising steps of:

- a. transmitting a request for establishing a communication by a communication terminal (Col 10 lines 3-5, 51-52, 64-65, sender initiates a request and a message to a recipient; figure 2, sender 10 corresponds to the communication terminal),
- b. handling the request by a server (Col 10 lines 3-5, 54-56, 65-67, message and request are received at EMS to determine the recipients' availability; EMS corresponds the server),
- c. as a response to inability to establish the requested communication, returning a failure response including rerouting details by the server (Col 10 line 65 – Col 11 line 3, Col 11 lines 14-17, if recipient's availability is negative, the system checks the registered alternative mechanisms and returns a list of available choice to the sender (failure response); alternative mechanisms corresponds to "rerouting details"),
- d. receiving by the communication terminal the failure response, including rerouting details (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, the result from alternative mechanism checking is returned to the sender with a list of available alternatives), and
- e. forwarding by the communication terminal data according to the received rerouting details (Col 14 lines 25-29, message is delivered on the selected mechanism).

16. Referring to claim 9, Ogle teaches the method according to claim 7, wherein the rerouting details include a phone number (figure 3, phone numbers 315, 325), according to which

data is forwarded to the short message service centre by the communication terminal (Col 7 lines 23-34, phone number is one of the alternative delivery mechanism, figure 2, message are sent via ISDN, PSTN).

17. Referring to claim 11, Ogle teaches the method according to claim 7, wherein the rerouting details include an electronic mail address (figure 3, email 313), according to which data is forwarded to the electronic mail server by the communication terminal (Col 7 lines 23-34, email is one of the alternative delivery mechanism).
18. Referring to claim 12, Ogle teaches the method according to claim 7, comprising the step of confirming the forwarding of data according to the received rerouting details in the communication terminal (Col 14 lines 25-29, the selected mechanism for delivery is the confirmed forwarding of data according to the received rerouting details).
19. Referring to claim 13, Ogle teaches the method according to claim 7, wherein handling the request by the server comprises fetching the rerouting details including an alternative contact information of a requested recipient from a data storage storing alternative contact information of users (Col 7 lines 57-67, Col 9 lines 22-42, alternative mechanisms includes alternative contact information are stored in data storages for search), adding rerouting details to the failure response and returning the failure response including rerouting details as a response to inability to establish the requested communication (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52 available alternatives are created and returned to the sender).
20. Referring to claim 14, Ogle teaches a communication terminal (sender 10, figure 2) for transmitting messages (Col 10 lines 3-5), comprising

- a. means for transmitting a request for establishing a communication (Col 10 lines 3-5, 51-52, 64-65, sender initiates a request and a message to a recipient;),
- b. means for receiving a failure response having rerouting details including an alternative contact information as a response to inability to establish the requested communication (Col 10 line 65 – Col 11 line 3, Col 11 lines 14-17, if recipient's availability is negative, the system checks the registered alternative mechanisms and returns a list of available choice to the sender (failure response); alternative mechanisms corresponds to "rerouting details"),
- c. means for displaying the alternative contact information (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, the result from alternative mechanism checking is returned to the sender with a list of available alternatives), and means for confirming forwarding of data according to the received rerouting details (Col 14 lines 25-29, the selected mechanism for delivery is the confirmed forwarding of data according to the received rerouting details), and
- d. means for forwarding data according to the received rerouting details as a response to the confirmation (Col 14 lines 25-29, message is delivered on the selected mechanism).

21. Referring to claim 15, Ogle teaches a computer program product (Col 6 lines 42-46), comprising computer executable code means for performing the steps of:

- a. transmitting by transmitting means a request for establishing a communication (Col 10 lines 3-5, 51-52, 64-65, sender initiates a request and a message to a recipient),

- b. as a response to inability to establish the requested communication, receiving by receiving means a failure response having rerouting details including an alternative contact information (Col 10 line 65 – Col 11 line 3, Col 11 lines 14-17, if recipient's availability is negative, the system checks the registered alternative mechanisms including alternative contact information and returns a list of available choice to the sender (failure response); alternative mechanisms corresponds to "rerouting details"),
- c. displaying by display means the alternative contact information (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, the result from alternative mechanism checking is returned to the sender with a list of available alternatives),
- d. requesting by the display means confirmation for forwarding of data according to the received rerouting details (Col 14 lines 25-29, the selected mechanism for delivery is the confirmed forwarding of data according to the received rerouting details), and
- e. as a response to the confirmation, forwarding data according to the received rerouting details by transmitting means, when said product is executed on a computer (Col 14 lines 25-29, message is delivered on the selected mechanism).

22. Referring to claim 16, Ogle teaches a server (EMS) for handling request-response based communication, comprising means for fetching rerouting details including an alternative contact information of the requested recipient from a data storage storing alternative contact information of users (Col 7 lines 57-67, Col 9 lines 22-42, alternative mechanisms includes alternative contact information are stored in data storages for

Art Unit: 2155

search), means for adding the rerouting details to the failure response, and as a response to inability to establish the requested communication (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, alternative mechanisms are created in Block 580, figure 5C), means for returning to the sender of the request the failure response including rerouting details (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52 available alternatives are returned to the sender).

23. Referring to claim 17, Ogle teaches a computer program product, comprising computer executable code means for performing the steps of: fetching rerouting details including an alternative contact information of the requested recipient from a data storage storing alternative contact information of users (Col 7 lines 57-67, Col 9 lines 22-42, alternative mechanisms includes alternative contact information are stored in data storages for search), adding the rerouting details to the failure response, and as a response to inability to establish the requested communication (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, alternative mechanisms are created in Block 580, figure 5C), returning to the sender of the request the failure response including rerouting details (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52 available alternatives are returned to the sender).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

24. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made:

25. Claims 2 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogle in view of Berger, US Publication Number 2004/0203567 A1, hereinafter Berger.
26. Referring to claims 2 and 10, Ogle teaches the communication system and the method according to claims 1 and 7, wherein the failure response has rerouting details including a alternative contact information and the communication terminal has means for receiving the failure response (Col 12 lines 20-22, 48-52, the result from alternative mechanism checking is returned to the sender with a list of available alternatives), including the alternative contact information to another messaging system and for forwarding data to the other messaging system according to the detailed alternative contact information (Col 7 lines 23-34 and figure 3, alternative mechanisms includes alternative contact information).

Although Ogle does not teaches wherein the alternative contact information is a detailed URL. Berger teaches contact information of a recipient could be a URL associated with an Internet web address so that the mobile device may establish a data connection with the server addressed by the URL (page 2 [0024]).

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the URL as one of the alternative contact information of the alternative mechanisms because Ogles teaches a system that enables system to use alternative message delivery mechanism using alternative contact information, and Berger provides URL may be an alternative contact information for the recipients (page 2 [0024]).

A person with ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make the modification to Ogle because having the URL as one of the alternative contact information would allow the sender to establish a data connection to the appropriate responding party via the URL as taught by Berger (Page 2, [0018] lines 8-13).

27. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogle in view of Henrikson et al., US Patent Number 6,870,916, hereinafter Henrikson.

28. Referring to claim 8, Ogle teaches method according to claim 7, wherein the request for establishing a communication is a message (Col 10 lines 3-5, 64-65, sender initiates a message to a recipient).

Ogle does not teach the message is a SIP message.

However, Henrikson teaches the use of SIP message to establish communication between mobile terminals (Col 8 lines 16-21).

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the SIP message of Henrikson with Ogle to establish communication between user terminals because both Ogle and Henrikson teaches communication establishment among user terminal including mobiles (Ogle figure 2, Henrikson Col 8 lines 17-21).

A person with ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make the modification to Ogle because having the message as an SIP INVITE message allow senders of Ogle to establish communication in a multimedia session defined by IETF-RFC 2543 with other user terminals as taught by Henrikson.

Conclusion

29. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is reminded that in amending in response to a rejection of claims, the patentable novelty must be clearly shown in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited and the objection made. Applicant must show how the amendments avoid such references and objections. See 37 CFR 1.111(c).
30. Doss et al., US Publication Number 2003/0046296 A1, teaches a dynamic contact information which contains the various contact data (figure 7).
31. Ogle et al., US Patent Number 6,654,790, and US Publication Number 2002/0087634 teaches technique for enabling wireless messaging system to use alternative message delivery mechanisms.
32. Emerson, III, US Publication Number 2003/0043974 A1, teaches user stored profile contains alternate contact information and availability.
33. Moore et al., US Publication Number 2004/003041 A1 and 2003/0185232 A1, teaches the SIP INVITE message to establish "chat" connections.
34. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Liang-che Alex Wang whose telephone number is (571)272-3992. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.
35. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571)272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2155

36. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Liang-che Alex Wang
March 27, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. h. Wang", written in a cursive style.